

OGC HAS REVIEWED.

25 October 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: File

SUBJECT: Declassification Request for Certain Reports of the Morgenthau Diary

1. A meeting was held in the office of Mr. Baron I. Shacklette, Director, Office of Compliance and Security, GSA, at 3:30 p.m., on 24 October 1955, attended by representatives from CIA, State, Treasury, and Defense, as follows:

State	Clare, Mr. Daniel H. Jr.
Treasury	Tormoen, Mr. Clarence O.
CIA	Grogan, Col. Stanley J.
Defense	Fleischer, Col. Wade (Office of Secretary)
	Allen, Philip (Exec Asst to Secy of Defense - Legislative & Public Affairs)
	Smith, Col. Bradish (Office of Secretary)
	Winnacker, Mr. Rudolph

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2. The meeting was called by Mr. Shacklette who explained that the GSA is responsible for operating the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library at Hyde Park, which is the repository for a so-called Morgenthau Diary. The latter consists of 90 large volumes of reports and documents which Mr. Morgenthau accumulated during his office as Secretary of the Treasury. These volumes include many original documents as well as microfilm copies of government reports, some of which were highly classified.

3. The GSA has been served with a subpoena returnable 17 October 1955 for all 90 volumes. This subpoena was later extended to 28 October and limited for the time being to approximately 300 documents or reports consisting of over a thousand pages. The subpoena was issued by Senator Eastland's Committee, investigators of which have already examined the material but now wish to submit the material to the Committee in a public hearing. For that reason they wish material would be declassified by the appropriate agencies. After considerable discussion Mr. Shacklette requested that the documents in question be distributed to the various agencies represented to determine if they could be declassified. As an alternative to declassifying them, he asked if they could be submitted to the Committee with the classification retained. This, of course, would limit their value to the Committee and might not be acceptable to it.

4. A further point was raised by representatives of the Department of Defense in that much of the material could be withheld from the Legislative as being confidential to the Executive Departments. This point would have to have further consideration even after the matter of declassification is determined.

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5. Most of the documents were turned over to the other 3 agencies and the only document given to CIA was an OSS report prepared by its Far Eastern Section, numbered 6, entitled "Notes on Interviews with Chinese Leaders", dated September 5, 1942, and classified Secret. The report had attached to it an interoffice communication from a Mr. Hofflich to Secretary Morgenthau, which communication might come under the privileged character of an executive document.

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Chief, Administration  
Foreign Intelligence

cc: Col. Grogan  
D/Security  
FE Division  
General Counsel ✓  
RI/Archives  
RI/Files

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